

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

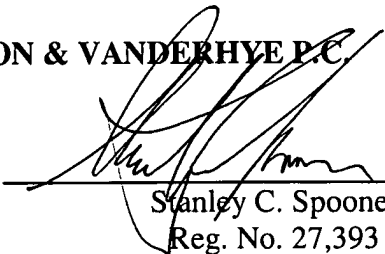
The Decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences mailed March 10, 2005, and upheld in the Decision on Request for Rehearing mailed November 17, 2005, indicates that appealed claims 3 and 5-7 are allowed and that the Examiner's rejection thereof is reversed. By the above amendment, rejected claims 1, 2, 4 and 8-10 have been cancelled, without prejudice, and claims 3 and 5-7 are rewritten in independent form adding the limitations of all claims from which they previously depended. Accordingly, claims 3 and 5-7 are in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: _____


Stanley C. Spooner
Reg. No. 27,393

SCS:kmm
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100